

## APPROVED MINUTES



### MINUTES

## Ridgefield Conservation Commission

Town Hall Annex, 66 Prospect Street

Ridgefield, CT 06877

(203) 431-2713 • [conservation@ridgefieldct.org](mailto:conservation@ridgefieldct.org)

### Meeting August 14 2023 at 7PM

**Present:** Roberta Barbieri      Jim Coyle      Jack Kace      Erik Keller  
Jean Linville      Jim Liptack      Pete Nichols      Benjamin Nissim  
Matt Sharp      Allan Welby

Absent: Matt Sharp

Attendance: Jana Hogan, Charlie Lovett, Megan Seafross

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7 P.M.

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#### 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**UPON** motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of July 24, 2023 be approved and ordered filed in Town Hall. Vote: 6:0

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#### 2. EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT PROPOSAL – Charlie Lovett

Charlie Lovett, An Eagle Scout with Troop 116 presented his final presentation on his proposal to install 5 benches at Shadow Lake. Mr. Lovett showed images of how the work was complete and images of the final benches. The commission expressed gratitude for the work and signed off on the final document.

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#### 3. BLAZES IN RIDGEFIELD TRAILS

Ms. Seafross from the Ridgefield Running Company offered to help coordinate with the RCC volunteers to help blaze trails as well as any other event the two groups could collaborate on. The RCC discussed using all trails app for the trail runners

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#### 4. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Litigation

**UPON** motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Barbieri), and carried, it was RESOLVED that the commission go into executive session. Vote: 9:0

Returned from to public at 8:01pm.

**UPON** motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Barbieri), and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve the settlement agreement with Rogers & Cavett. Vote: 9:0

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#### 5. EBIKES ORDINANCE REVIEW

Mr. Nissim reviewed the proposed addition to the open space ordinance to cover motorized vehicles. Ebikes are not mentioned in our open space rules & guidelines prohibiting the use on trails. The RCC will consider whether or not to change the ordinance or add a rule & regulation.

**UPON** motion duly made (Keller), seconded (Barbieri), and carried, it was RESOLVED to approve the changes to the ordinance. Vote: 9:0

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## 6. DEER HUNT

Residents are opposing the Comstock Court Deer Hunt area. Mr. Coyle let the commission members know this is an agenda item to be determined by the BOS at their next meeting.

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## 7. WEBSITE UPDATE

Mr. Coyle brought up the RCC's website it out of date and needs some attention, along with our social media. Ms. Hogan has some interns to help in this process.

**UPON** motion duly made (Barbieri), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was **RESOLVED** to approve the use of high school interns to help with RCC's social media. Vote: 9:0

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## 8. PINE MOUNTAIN ROAD ACCESS

Mr. Liptack, Mr. Sharp and Mr. Malwitz walked the Pine Mountain access trail which seems to have encroached on a neighbor's property. The mountain bikers will restore the trails and the maintenance trail has been flagged to ensure bikers are on open space property.

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## 9. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Coyle mentioned a realtor contacted the RCC for a potential property purchase of 11.66 acres. The RCC will schedule a site visit for review.

Mr. Nichols would like to add a history of McKeon Farm on the website.

Ms. Barbieri reported that a bamboo encroachment into open space had been taken care of by the home owner.

Mr. Welby asked when the mowing at McKeon will begin. Mr. Sharp will have this information.

The next RCC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>. The RCC will ask to move this meeting to the 7<sup>th</sup> due to the BOS meeting on the same evening.

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## 13. MEETINGS FOR ATTENDANCE

### **P&Z**

September 5 – Hogan  
September 19 – Welby

### **IWB**

August 24 – Nichols  
September 14 – Keller

## 14. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

None.

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**ADJOURNMENT UPON** motion duly made (Nissim), seconded (Nichols), and carried, it was **RESOLVED** that the meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M. Vote: 9:0.